

# Parker Pen Shoptalker

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## Queen Donna



We've always said that feminine pulchritude was abundant at Parker. Latest lovely to make the news is Donna Kinservik, sales, here being crowned queen of the Rock County 4-H fair while her sister Susan and Darlene Phillips, flower girls, and her court look on. Bestowing the honor is last year's queen, Mary Arthur.

Donna has been a stenographer at Parker for two and a half months. The day she was crowned queen the sales department gave her a pink and white corsage.

It must have been difficult for her to keep her mind on typing and sales figures with each day of the fair packed with exciting events. Wednesday, August 6 was the big day. "The coronation was the most thrilling," said Donna, "but I was scared." The next day she gave the welcome speech at the style revue. Friday a big disappointment came. The parade was rained out, and the Dillenbeck 4-H club had worked so hard on their queen's float. All was not in vain, however; they took second place in the Labor Day Parade of Champions.

## Sports Car Bug

After seeing the Sports Car Race at the Rock County Airport sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, there are several fellows around here who have placed a sports car on the top of their Christmas list. Some aren't waiting for Santa, though.

For one, Daniel Parker, who was chairman of the youth activities fund-raising event, has been building a sports car for the last six months. George Eddy surprised folks the other day by driving to work in his new MG. But the rest of us are still just wishing.

## Significance of Sales Apparent

There was a little slogan someone had tacked on a bulletin board which read "You May Be Next." It could have meant most anything, a warning to avoid accidents—maybe a raise—a promotion—but our guess, considering it was put up in July, is that most people thought of the lay off. Unfortunately, conditions necessitated a lay off at that time which caused Parker folks to ask each other, "why, how long, how many, etc."

The answers to those questions were not of the single sentence, or short paragraph variety. They involved on the one hand a drop in this company's sales during the first five months of the fiscal year. The drop was no more than prevailed all through the gift product field. It was considerably less, in fact, than many firms had experienced. But, it was still a drop, not a gain.

The reduction in plant personnel also involved inventories. There was quite a bit of merchandise on the shelves here—and in the stores. That merchandise would be sold in time, but until it moved, money was tied up in it.

There were other factors.

Looking back at what happened it is difficult to view it as a situation of great magnitude or significance in the total affairs of this company. It was big and significant, however, to the people laid off. And that's why we're writing about it now

in much the same vein as factory management explained it when notices were given.

The record shows that during the first four months of the fiscal year in 1951 some 69 people were laid off. In fiscal 1952 there were 77. Up to that point the years were about alike. Then in July of 1952, 68 people were laid off compared with none in July of 1951. That's the point at which some people with more than six years service were affected. Truth of the matter is that there haven't been many people with less than five or six years service with the company of late.

The blow to the 68 came at a bad time. Vacation time. And why did it have to be at that time? Because production schedules are tied to sales forecasts, and early in July the sales department gave the production department a new forecast for the remainder of the fiscal year ending the

(Continued on page 8, column 1)

## Two Family Portrait



The Zechas and the Parkers got together for a family portrait in the Parker home on Milwaukee Avenue when the Parker distributor for Indonesia visited here last month. Mr. and Mrs. William Zecha with their youngest son, Austen, had come from Java for the graduation of Alwin from the Carlisle, Pennsylvania high school. One son, Andrew, remained at home to take care of the business. The other two are attending school in the States, Adrian studying law at Dickenson College, Carlisle, and Allen, working on his doctor's degree at Stanford.

Seated are Mrs. Daniel Parker, Mrs. George S. Parker, Mrs. William Zecha and Mrs. Kenneth Parker. Standing are Austen, Adrian, Daniel Parker, Kenneth Parker, William Zecha, Alwin and Allen.

# Tumbling Barrel

## Raw-Fish-Eaters

The above is another name for, or the meaning of Eskimo. This name was given to them by their warmer blooded Indian neighbors to the south. Their origin, and many other things about them, is rather hard to determine. Why anyone would want to live on seal oil and blubber, make his house from over-sized ice cubes and live in a sub-zero climate is baffling to us.

We don't know how you feel about it, but we like our weather on the warm side. That nice warm sunshine and all that goes with it—swimming, picnics, golfing, etc.—suits us fine. But we've heard tell that there are some folks who don't really begin to enjoy living until the thermometer hits zero or at least 10 above. They must be ice fishermen or part Eskimo.

Colder weather ahead makes us look long and hard at the coal bin or the fuel oil gauge. Then too, the kids are starting back to school and that's usually more expensive than we had anticipated.

You know, our needs day by day are a lot like the weather. The calendar says it's summer and for the 'morrow the weatherman predicts "continued fair and warmer." Then comes morning and one look at the thermometer and the sky and you wonder how that weatherman can be so far wrong. So with our lives, many times the skies are bright and clear, not a cloud in sight, the sun shining brightly and all the breezes balmy. We feel good, as well we should, and think that if this continues for just a little while we will soon be singing "Happy Days."

Then from nowhere and usually without warning those clear skies are overcast and

we are caught in a downpour without an umbrella. If that should happen to you, stop at the Credit Union office next to the personnel department; we've got umbrellas to spare.

Whether you get caught in a downpour of bills or get taken off guard by a financial cold snap, your Credit Union Loan committee is at your service. We want to help you help yourself. Of course, the best protection against future stormy weather is to save regularly and your Credit Union shows you the way. But even then, sometimes we run into a storm. If you need a financial umbrella or a windbreaker, come to see us.

Charles Collins  
Credit Union

## Pop Warner Foundation Seeks All America Team

Colonel J. Harry LaBrum, president, Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and board member of the Pop Warner Foundation, a national character-training agency for little boy sports leagues, has invited sons of Parker employes and stockholders to become candidates for the mythical 1952 ALL AMERICA MIDGET FOOTBALL TEAM.

Youngsters may hail from school, sandlot or playground eleven-man, six-man or touch-football programs. They must be not over 12 years nor over 100 lbs. as of September 1, 1952 and rate at least 7 points above passing in school studies. Registration blanks are available to October 19, 1952 by writing Connie Mack, Jr., Pop Warner Foundation, 3664 Richmond Street, Philadelphia 34, Pa.

## Changing Pace

by Art Fuller

Art Fuller, a janitor at Parker Pen for seven years, retired from the job August 1. He's looking forward to having more time for raising bees and writing poetry. Art has a looseleaf notebook filled with verses to friends, about friends (many from Parker) and about life in general. Here is the one he wrote just before retiring.

At last that wondrous day has come,  
I'm happy to say my work is done.  
For I'm tired of playing a foolish game,  
Really tired of trying to make a name.

For fifty years and more I carried a load,  
As I wandered down life's dusty road.  
So now I am going very hard to try  
To have a little pleasure before I die.

'Tis very true I'll miss my friends  
I've made in the seven years at Parker Pen.  
Every one has been so courteous and kind  
Another such bunch would be hard to find.

There's one thing I really wish I knew  
How Parker's found such a wondrous crew.  
Way from the big fellow at the top  
Down to the boys that push the mop.

Often I may wish I was still with 'em,  
My friends that still work for a living.  
Even tho the years have torn us apart,  
I'll still have a place for you in my heart.

They say that health makes life worth  
living,  
Which my God to me has surely given.  
But I think it best to drop out of line,  
'Ere I get caught by "Old Father Time."

A year isn't long, especially when  
A person passes three score and ten.  
So good-by Parker Pen and all your crew,  
It's been awfully nice knowing you.

## Pride of our Heart

Editors of Parker Pen Shoptalker,

In the past, you have been kind enough to send us two copies of the "Parker Pen Shoptalker," one of which is addressed to Mr. James L. Thompson. Mr. Thompson is no longer with us and our address has been changed. I thought you might like to have these changes in order to bring your mailing list up to date.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how much we enjoy receiving the "Parker Pen Shoptalker" every month. In our opinion, it is extremely well done and gives us a picture of The Parker Company that we would not be able to get in any other way.

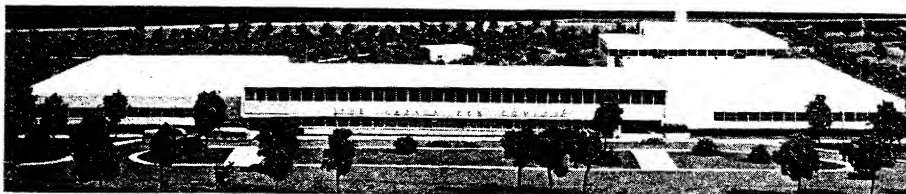
Sincerely yours,  
William G. Moore  
J. Walter Thompson  
Company do Brasil

## Avoid Trouble with These People



Rifle champion this year is the Tool Room team. Members, from left, are Rollo Pfeiffer, Lee Strandlie, Agnes Jackson, Don Jackson and August Weber. They say Agnes was so good her husband had to really fight to stay ahead of her in points which, of course, kept the rest of the team on their toes. Pfeiffer won't use any other gun but Harry Grimesey's now because he scored 100 in a prone position—gives all the credit to Grimesey's rifle. Harry's the only other member in the club to score that high.

Miniature Model



### Plant 4 Ramblings And Rumblings

Maybe you think you've got a big job when you have to wash the kitchen walls! Take heart as you watch the fellows washing the Rock Face brick walls of the new plant with Soilax solution. The walls were spattered by rain, dust and mortar and had to be washed before applying a filler which will keep them permanently white.

Progress is magnificent, isn't it? Even wheelbarrows have gone modern. You don't see many fellows wrestling brick and mortar laden wheelbarrows at the plant 4 construction project. They're just steering them. The wheelbarrows are motor driven. Sort of a heavyweight hot rod operation.

On the other hand, riveting is still done in the same fascinating way as it has been for years. They tell us a special steel crew sets up the steelwork, bolting it in place. When a four man riveting team gets on the job, they square up the construction and then begin making it secure. One fellow on the ground stands before a "grill" heating rivets. When they're ready, the boys up on the beams signal and up comes a blazing-red rivet. The ground man tosses it with tongs a yard long. The fellow up on the beams catches the rivet with a funnel-like bucket and the riveter makes with the rat-a-tat-tating machine.

Did you see the forest at the new plant? It was in the center section and as thick as the king's forest in Robin Hood's day. It was a forest of poles which held the scaffolding and metal pans for forming the ceiling of cement. A special design was

used to make the ceiling strong enough to hold heavy equipment on the next floor. When they get around to finishing touches, an acoustical ceiling will be installed.

Speaking of forests, practically a whole one was offered to the company by a generous employe. Clair Munns, plant 3, offered Parker all the hard maple trees of any size that we could use for planting on the slope behind the new plant. He had too many at his place; they were killing each other. The company was sorry that they had to refuse the offer because of technical reasons, but the gesture was certainly appreciated.

No big oil tank will mar the scenery. Thirty thousand gallons of oil can be stored in the tank which was just placed under the ground behind the main plant.

Better-than-daylight light fixtures are piled high waiting for a permanent place to rest. They'll be recessed into the ceiling.

The crawl space under the main building will be handy for repairing all plumbing, electrical and heating lines. Right now it's not handy for much of anything. It looks something like an abandoned sewer in a movie mystery. That's because the roof wasn't finished when the rains came. Soon as the roof is completed (all five layers of it), the crawl space will be dry again.

If it's excitement you want maybe you'd like to trade jobs with Chief Engineer Otto Jendresen. He inspected the chimney a couple weeks ago, riding up there (all 120

feet) in a not too steady bucket and pulley affair.

Construction will have to go on without the boss-man for awhile. Foreman Harold Swandstrom is leaving Sept 19 for a two week's stay in Sweden. He's making the trip by air to visit his family.

A couple of gals from the office, Fern Ball and Evelyn Ellen, were seen out at the new plant laden with papers and checking over some big crates. When asked what was in the boxes, they'd answer "rocks." Some people might be surprised at this reply and start running in the other direction, but they are serious. These very important rocks have been shipped from all over the world for use in the "Path of the Nations."

If you look closely at the floor you'll see a little wooden square every few feet. They were inserted before the cement was poured to allow for installation of wiring for machines without drilling through concrete. Convenience is the by-word at plant 4.

We don't have much claim to greatness (in size, that is) but we can claim to have the biggest I-beams made. They're those main I-shaped steel beams in the framework of the building.

### Look Out Iowa, Here We Come

The prize overstatement of the week was in a letter from the Chamber of Commerce Secretary in Red Oak, Iowa, some 210 miles from Ft. Madison as the Iowa crows fly.

The letter said "We are enclosing a copy of our Red Oak brochure with the understanding your firm is interested in locating in Iowa."

We know that Roy Utter, Parker representative in Iowa has done a bang up job selling "51" pens in Sheaffer's back yard, but the business doesn't amount to so much that we're thinking of building a plant, say in Keokuk, to take care of it. At least not until we get this new \$3 million factory in Janesville paid for.

### Dave Watrous Leaves, Eddy New Ad Manager

It's always tough to see a good friend go. And when he has been an asset to the company as Advertising Manager Dave Watrous has, it's again as hard. Mr. Watrous has taken a position as an account executive with Tatham-Laird, Inc., Chicago Advertising Agency (the company that handles our Flaminaire advertising). We wish him lots of success in his new venture.

Successor to Watrous is a most capable man who has shown plenty of spark around here for the last three years as Assistant Advertising Manager George Eddy. The work won't be new for he's been connected with the selling end of Parker business for six years. Congratulations and the best of luck to you, George.

David Watrous



George Eddy



## First Prize Color—Evelyn Shuler



## Shutter Charades of 1952

Vacations are over but lots of Parker people are still enjoying them. How? By looking over their colored slides and snapshots. We say "lots" because the photo contest had over 100 entries which is some indication of the great number of shutter bugs in this company.

The ten prize winners are agreed that "Shutter Charades of 1952" was a very worthwhile contest. The judges, too, were pleased with the contest. It was heartwarming for them to see that many Parkerites had taken the suggestions offered by the professionals after former contests. The entries, on a whole, were improved over those of the last two years, that is, subject matter was better, scenes were framed by trees, arches, etc. and some black and white photos had been cropped and enlarged. Professional photographers Marvin Helgesen, John Dooley and Wayne Fuller judged the entries. Their most used comment, was "Why didn't he get closer to the subject?" Getting more in the picture than intended seems to be a common fault.

The Camera Club had a showing of the prize winning pictures a few days after they'd been judged so some folks know how beautiful the slides were. Unfortunately, Shoptalker's reproductions of them here in black and white don't do justice to their beauty.

A \$10 first prize in the color classification went to Evelyn Shuler, office personnel, for her vibrant transparency of white lilies on blue water. Focus and exposure were perfect in taking that photo.

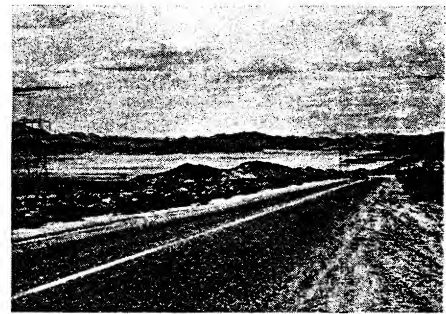
Don Snyder, automatics, took second prize of \$7.50 with "Otter Creek", a study

## Second Prize Color



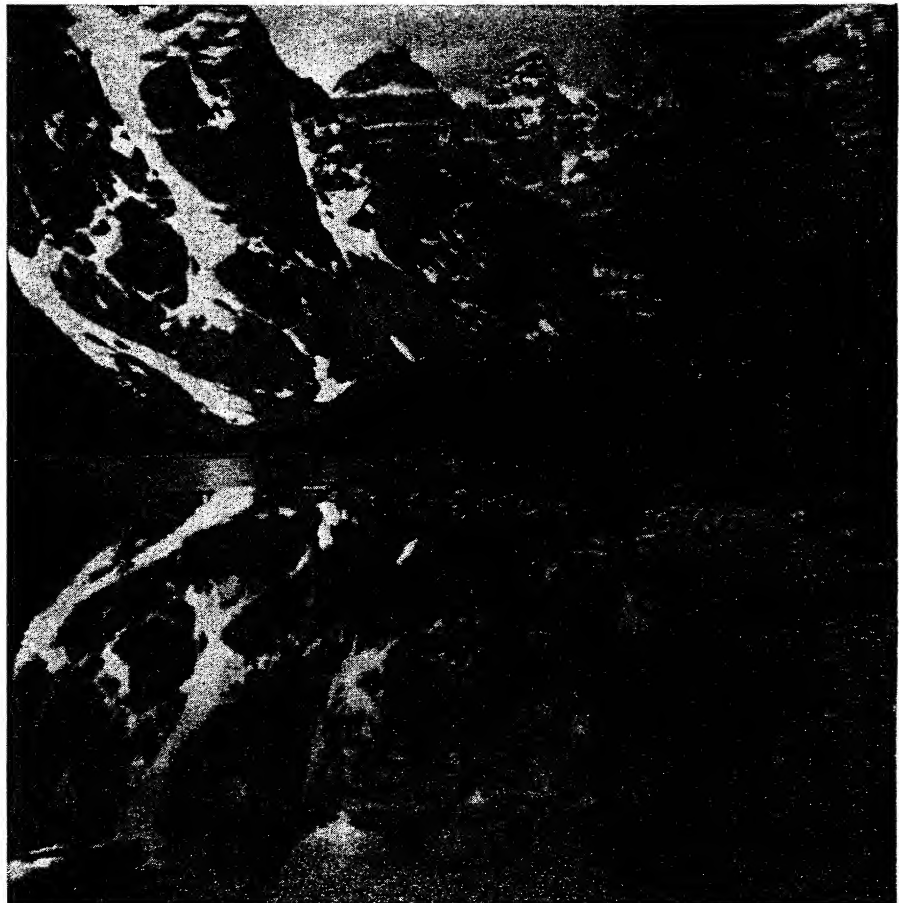
A tranquil scene with a variety of green hues taken by Don Snyder made a beautiful transparency.

## Third Prize Color



Bob Rudin's slide of a lonely looking road had the appearance of an oil painting.

## First Prize—B &amp; W Scenic



Mary Nicholson's picture had the judges confused briefly as to which end was up.



in sunlight and shadows on a winding wooded creek. The third prize of \$5.00 was given to Bob Rudin for a slide that when projected looked just like an oil painting. The variety of green and brown hues emitted a warmth you could almost feel.

Three fourth prizes of \$2.50 each were presented to Ernie Duecker, automatics, Vi Joy, public relations and Don Snyder, automatics for a striking branch of cherries, a hill scene framed by a pink walled corridor, and a sun-drenched rocky peak.

There was a little less competition in the black and white category, hence fewer prizes. Burrell R. Webb, Western division, received a \$7 first prize in the personality group for his series of photos on his vacation. The judges mentioned that he had put lots of thought and work into making up this unit of pictures. It told an interesting story in a friendly way.

**Second Prize—B & W Personality**



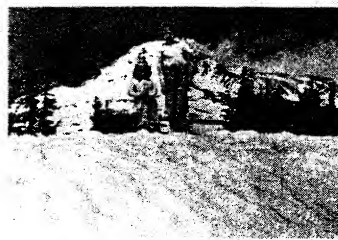
Leonard Fabian snapped his daughter cooling off on a hot summer day and she stole the judge's heart.

**First Prize—B & W Personality**

*Oregonian Vacation Hebbwise*



*Home*



*To the Mountains*



*To the Seashore*



*And Back Home Again*

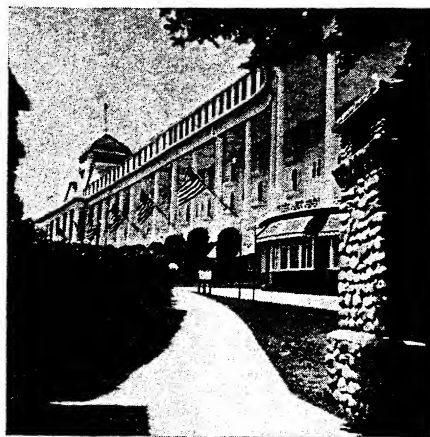
Burrell Webb demonstrates how his family enjoys an Oregon vacation with variety.

Human interest and humor won Leonard Fabian second prize (\$3.00) in this group. His picture of a little tyke taking a drink in a child's favorite way strikes a familiar chord in everyone.

Mary Nicholson, export, copped the first prize in the black and white scenic division. Her picture's composition was excellent. The judges commented that she did not try to get too much into the photo, and the reflections were perfect.

Another gal from export, Marie Clark, won second prize for an interesting shot of the Grand Hotel at Mackinac Island. She took the picture from an unusual angle which made it different from the usual shot of a building. An honorable mention in this category went to Bee Dusik, Bluff St. office, because her picture of a falls through a wrought iron banister was unusual with a rather "arty" touch.

**Second Prize—B & W Scenic**



There were several pictures of the Grand Hotel in the contest but Marie Clark's was outstanding.

**On the Distaff Side**

By Vi Witt Joy

Right now, A stands for Autumn, or Apples. And that means apple pie. You'll see recipes for apple pie everywhere these days but we like to be different: So-o-o-o, here's a recipe for apple pie **without** apples from Cornelia Fenner, automatics inspection. Don't believe it, eh? Well, try it and you'll see. Your friends won't be able to tell the difference.

- 1 ¼ c. sugar
- 1 ½ c. warm water
- 1 ½ teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- pinch of salt
- 14 soda crackers broken in fourths

Bring these ingredients to a boil. Let cool and then put in crust and bake as an ordinary pie.

\* \* \*

Along with Autumn, come thoughts of new wardrobes, renovated outfits, and new accessories. Not the least of these according to the "fashion-tellers" is your jewelry, which takes the limelight in any costume. As exciting as a West Point Cadet's epaulets is a king-size rhinestone pin worn on the shoulder seam of your smart dark dress or suit.



Try pinning a scatter pin on one of the center petals of a big fake rose. Then plant the stem in your suit pocket, pinning it to the lining to hold it secure.

\* \* \*

Wondering how to vary the use of those colorful silk kerchiefs you have. Pull the ends of one through the center of your largest costume ring. Or attach four of your prettiest small scatter pins to the four corners of a gay silk hanky - - - then tuck it in your dress pocket so that the hanky flares out to show its jewelled corners. To top a strapless formal, tie round your neck a jewel color chiffon kerchief and fasten a trio of tiny rhinestone scatter pins to the triangle of scarf that hangs in back.



Switching from sandals to enclosed shoes can be confining to one's feet. Sprinkle baking soda into your shoes to help keep them free from odor.

\* \* \*

Cool weather will probably bring more bridge playing. If you're not a "Culbertson" (as most of us aren't) you might take this tip from the Assn. of American Playing Card Manufacturers. "Always remember that the average strength of a bridge hand is an ace, king, queen and jack or exactly one-fourth of the honors in the deck. Such a hand has an honor count of two. The ace counts one, and the king and queen in different suits count one together. You can judge from your own honor count the value of the other hands."

## This is Baseball?



Dave Garcia, Oshkosh Giants manager, gets treated like a king, movie idol and sweetheart all wrapped into one by these Parker lovelies. They are Jean Cooper, Barbara Linne-man, Rosemary McCann and Phyllis Kutz, tabulating.

## Election Time

You've had lots of fun this year due to the Parker Athletic Association, no? Then how about showing the group your support—vote in the coming election of officers. Don Miller who has done a wonderful job as vice-president last year is the new president according to an amendment voted upon last year which automatically moves the vice-president up to the presidency. Here are the other candidates:

Vice-president, Bob Gundlach, shipping; Cliff Bair, service; Bob Burmeister, accounting.

Treasurer, Bob Daly, automatics; Howard Robinson, accounting; Don McCarthy, scheduling.

Secretary, Gerry Knudson, purchasing; Bea Johnson, research; Dorothy Lyke, office service.

## HOW STATELY!

(a kind of fable)

A group of Socialists launched their ship of state and ordered everybody aboard.

For power, this new vessel had no engine, no fuel—only a great big sail, which drooped at the mast.

For there was no wind.

"That's nothing!" said the Skipper. "Everybody blow in the sail!"

So everybody puffed out his cheeks and blew. Those who blew harder than others right away became self-conscious and quit blowing altogether. But there was enough breath from all those other blowers and the sail bellied out handsomely.

"Only the ship didn't budge an inch.

"Ah," said the Skipper, admiring the bellying sail. "That's something like it!"

"But we're not getting anywhere!" the blowers began admitting between blasts.

"I know," said the Skipper. "But look at that sail! Did you ever see anything more stately!"

Some blowers looked and waxed ecstatic. Others sat down and held their heads.

—Sven Halla  
for Partners

## Welcome Mat is Out

Parker has been entertaining some pretty important people of late. You probably saw them as they toured the plant. Most recent were groups of buyers and merchandise managers from Cleveland and St. Louis Parker accounts who were flown here in the Ventura. These visits did a great deal in cementing our friendly relations with these dealers.

On another day, public relations executives from all over the state were the guests of the company for their annual business meeting. They left impressed with the soundness of Parker employe-management relations.

Members of the Janesville, Wisconsin, League of Women Voters were hostesses to a group of public officials from the Ryukyus. They were here studying the American system of government and industry. As they left, the interpreter told us that they had never seen a plant such as ours and were astonished that making pens involved so many people.

Scrambled Eggs  
Baseball Style

Maybe maestro Bill Buckley gave the Cubs added inspiration as he waved his plunger baton, but the boys really plunged into the game on Parker Employe Booster Night. It actually looked like a win against the Oshkosh Giants, but in the end Oshkosh beat us 11 to 8.

The plunger was used to direct the clashing rhythm of the "Simphoney" band before and during the game. They chimed in with "Show Me the Way to Go Home," "Taps" and other appropriate numbers just at the right time.

In the pre-game show the egg throwing contest among Oshkosh and Janesville players resulted in many suspense-packed moments among the spectators as well as the players. However, when emcee L. Jack Bennett accidentally dropped the egg of the winning pair, it didn't break. Seems it was a wooden one. Needless to say, the race was run again.

A foursome of pretty girls dressed as men sang special versions of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" and "Sentimental Journey" before the game. A pantomime skit was presented contrasting the methods used to sign up Oshkosh players and Janesville players.

During the game everyone got a kick out of the executioner who delighted in punishing errors and executing pitchers. He'd take a pitcher behind the grandstand, a shot would be heard, and executioner Bob Rudin would return swinging his smoking gun happily. One time, however, the same thing happened except that instead of the executioner returning to the field, the pitcher came back swinging the gun.

The crowd also found amusement in the prop man, Maurice Cashore, who would suddenly bounce out in the field with a bushel basket, butterfly net, or similarly helpful prop when someone missed a good catch. Ralph Heinle, as Janesville umpire, disagreed with the real "ump" when he decided against the Cubs, but he was unable to persuade him to change the decisions.

Between innings "51" sets, "51" Special sets, and Flaminaires went to adult spectators. Students were given Parkettes and the kids won Hopalong Cassidy pens. Besides all the Parker pens and pencils given to players for outstanding plays, "51" sets went to three Cubs and two Giant players for home runs.

The people who took part in the arranging and carrying out of the program were chairman Leo Hart, George Ruppe, Harry Cullen, James Wells, Maurice Cashore, Bob Rudin, Jack Bennett, Ralph Heinle, Vi Joy, June Carlson, Miriam Jaeger, Clifford Bair, Alvin Pagel, Lois Detert, Garcia's Harem—Phyllis Kutz, Rosemary McCann, Barbara Linneman, Jean Cooper, the quartet—Joan Conway, Judy Preuss, Betty Rabe, Connie Schneider, and the band—Bob Daly, Al Heon, Henry Prust, Howard Robinson, Harry Grimesey, Frank Pfeifer, Bill Thorn, Bill Buckley and Martin Goodsell.

## Sellin' in the Rain

Don't let anybody tell you that Janesville merchants aren't on their toes to catch a dollar whenever it falls from a purse. Nosiree.

One afternoon late last week we were downtown on an errand. A rain came up suddenly and marooned us in the car parked in front of Yost's.

The rain had barely gotten a good start when a lady with a package in her hand climbed carefully into the show window—among three manikins all decked out in suits that the smart lady will be wearing this season.

The sales lady selected one of the manikins—one wearing a grey suit and red hat. She opened the package, and it turned out to be a transparent plastic raincoat, hat and belt that all folded neatly into a transparent packet.

While the rain poured and poor unprepared shoppers clustered in doorways, the

lady adorned the manikin in the raincoat and hat. Just for good measure, she hung a parasol over the manikin's arm. Stepping back she surveyed her work with a satisfied expression and climbed out of the window. Then, dammit, the rain stopped.

## Harlan Zodtner, Paul Keller Named to New Positions

Harlan Zodtner has been named to the new position of Director of Technical Research. This position will replace the positions of Director of Research and Development and Director of Laboratories. Under his new title he will head up all research activities.

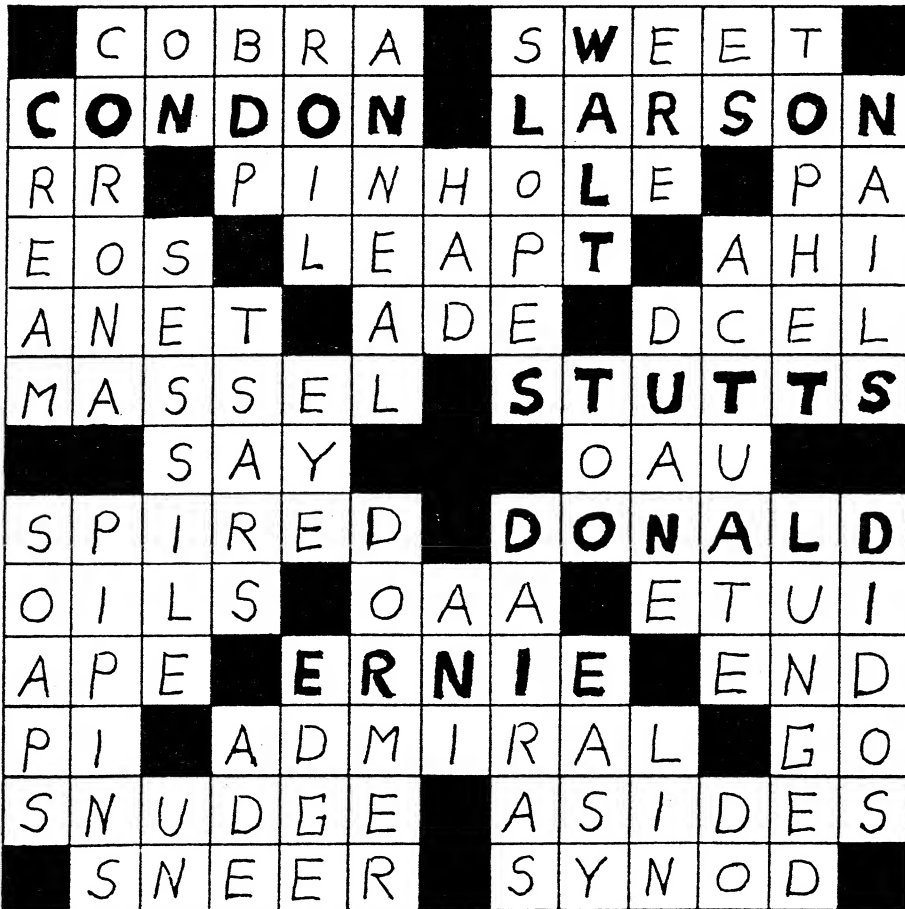
Another new position has been created in that of Marketing Analyst. It is filled by Paul Keller, a pleasant young man with a year's experience at selling Parker pens to the trade besides a Master of Business Administration degree. He will be responsible for market research and analysis and for making our market surveys pay off.

## Let Me at 'Em



Bob Dyson, son of John Dyson, chemical lab, was the Parker sponsored entry in the Soap Box Derby this year. He was in a good position to win his first heat in the Class B division when his steering gear went haywire. Weaving down the track he still managed to come in second and win a baseball glove. He's determined to do better next year.

## Puzzle Unpuzzled



Here is the answer to last month's puzzle devised by Henry Gould, maintenance. We asked that everyone who enjoyed working crossword puzzles send them in, even if unfinished and we'd have some more. "Let's have more puzzles" one person wrote on the clipping. However, only five people sent the puzzles to Shoptalker which out of over 1000 employees doesn't indicate overwhelming interest. Those who had it correct were Lenore Raukuce, export, Doris Paust, office service bureau and Bell Teetshorn, Houston, Texas. Congratulations gals!

## "Sharp Boy"



Wallace Henning, right, gives L. Jack Bennett, Metals foreman, a demonstration of his idea for sharpening pelleting dies. Bennett holds a \$25 U. S. Savings Bond which he presented to Henning for his suggestion.

The die is used in making platenium pellets which are fused to pen nibs. It needs sharpening quite often so Henning devised a die block and honing stone method of sharpening the die.

Accident Fact: Traffic accidents hit a bloody peak on Saturdays and Sundays. Conclusion: It's a great life if you don't week-end!

# Who's This Al Capp?

If you do something out of the ordinary around here, you'd better be careful. There's a fellow in a little downstairs office of Plant 1 who loves to make the most of a humorous situation by putting it down with pen and ink. This cartoonist, whose work you've seen several times in Shoptalker is Ed Hill, Receiving. Ed's a swell guy who makes a hobby of recording comical incidents in the lives of friends much to the amusement of even those who are the brunt of the jokes.

Maybe not as world famous as Al Capp and Lil' Abner, Ed Hill has established a reputation that has brought him some homework for pranksters.

It is always done in a friendly manner, though, so most people feel complimented rather than "picked on." Then too, there's often a moral to his cartoons. Ed drew some cartoons emphasizing duties and desirable characteristics of foremen. These were shown as slides at supervisory meetings. His teasers include a cartoon of Bill Jones playing cards and being questioned by policemen who didn't believe his name, last month's Shoptalker cartoon of the girls locked in the quonset hut, and probably his best known cartoon of Joe Shuler and the water tank incident pictured on this page.

Drawing began to interest Ed when he was 15. He worked with water colors then. Now he doesn't wield his humorous pen very often although in his 29 years at Parker he's found abundant material for cartoons. On the job he takes care of incoming production materials, returns, dealer reports and routes packages to the various departments throughout the Janesville operations.

Ed's two children, Lu Ann, 11, and Lanny, 16, provide plenty of activity at home. Cartooning and painting are not Mr. Hill's only hobbies, though. Boxing has always been of great interest to him. In the Navy and in this region he was very active as an amateur boxer not many years ago. Later he coached some of the young amateurs including two boys who won the NCAA championship in 1940.

All this talent shouldn't be wasted, do you think so? Therefore, we've persuaded him to do some personality sketches of Parker foremen. Look for them in the next issues.

# Significance of Sales--

(Continued from page 1, column 3)

28 February, 1953, which was reduced from its earlier forecast. A lay off had to result.

At this juncture, Janesville factory employment is 757 compared with 928 at the same time last year. Readjustments have been made from abnormal conditions created by Korea, scare buying and the like. Company officials are hopeful that sales levels the balance of the year will sustain the present employment level. They don't promise that, but that's what they hope will happen.

# New Mexico Bound

A group of southern Wisconsin Boy Scouts were leaving for a 10 day outing at the Philmont, N. M. ranch near Cimarron, N. M. but almost didn't make their train connection in Chicago. The Parker Ventura came to their aid flying them to Chicago just in time for the train's departure.

The boys were just about as excited over the plane ride as the outing itself. Waiting for word from their leader Earl Krogen, one of the Milton boys was about to accept

an ice cream cone from a neighbor lady. Just then a buddy shouted, "Hey, c'mon, we're getting a ride to Chicago in the Parker plane." In a blink the boy was gone, leaving the poor lady holding a melting cone.

Wendell "Shorty" Kumlien, automatics, received the following card from his son a few days later:

"Dear Everybody,  
I arrived safely. I wrote this before I left so I don't know what happened yet.  
So long,  
Pete."



Joe Shuler really wasn't sleeping. He was on his way up to turn off the water.